

**MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2016**

Members in Attendance: Beverly Bevilacqua, Cynthia DeAngelis, Michael Rademacher, Maureen St. Hilaire, Susan James, Patrick Quinn

Members Absent: Susan Savage Tennant

Others Present: John Thompson, Former Commissioner, Darcy Devney, Resident, Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator

Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2015:

Patrick Quinn made a motion to approve the November 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes with a correction as to the spelling of Darcy Devney's name. Also a correction was requested to change the wording from the following. That Arlington has a high population of disabled residents to according to the U.S. Census of over sixty-five year olds sixteen percent of Arlington's population has mobility impairment. SO VOTED

True Story Theatre:

Susan James said that a representative from the True Story Theatre has agreed to attend the January 2016 Commission Meeting. Susan said that the True Story Theatre has been working with Town Commission's and Committee's to help them work more efficiently. Examples given by Susan were that assistance provided by the True Story Theatre could be used to help Commission's and Committee's run meetings more efficiently, establish and promote their goals and to outreach to the community. Susan said that the True Story Theatre's next event co-sponsored by the Diversity Task Group will be on January 9, 2016 for the purpose of discussing what it is like to be stigmatized.

Susan stated that Commission Members should prepare questions and comments to be discussed with the True Story Theatre at the January 2016 Meeting. The following are comments that were discussed as possible questions. Kerrie Fallon asked how we capitalize on who is out there as volunteers such as boy scouts and other groups doing community services. Kerrie asked how the Commission can support individuals and groups serving the Town. Maureen St. Hilaire said that we request help in structuring issues such as handicapped parking on Mass. Avenue. Cynthia DeAngelis said that we should ask who we are and what are our goals, and for assistance in preparing an action plan to reach these goals. Michael Rademacher said that we could ask for assistance in resolving issues. For example using sub committee's and establishing certain type categories for dealing with issues that arise. Michael said that the Commission should make themselves better known to the Selectmen. An example would be to resolve parking issues and then discuss this with the Selectmen. John Thompson said that the Commission does a good job with issues that come across the table but is not as good at discovering issues on its own.

Warrant Article:

Darcy Devney discussed a draft warrant article she had prepared regarding increasing handicapped parking in the business districts on Mass. Avenue. Darcy said that the warrant article must be submitted no later than January 29, 2016. Michael Rademacher said that if the Commission decides at their January Meeting to support the proposed warrant article the Commission will need to specify how we arrived at a seven percent figure for handicapped parking spaces. Michael also said that if the State requires that five percent of on street spaces be accessible then it will be difficult to convince the Town to agree to a larger percentage. The Commission decided to vote on if they will support this warrant article at the January 2016 Meeting.

John Thompson:

Commission members thanked John for his service on the Commission, from February 2012 through December 2015. Members recognized John for his many contributions and for the professional manner that he always presented at Commission Meetings.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:00.